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What is claimed is:

1. A method of providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device, comprising:

5 placing a mobile chat proxy server in a communication path between a standard Internet Relay Chat server and a wireless gateway server supporting said mobile device;

wherein said mobile chat proxy server forwards chat commands from said mobile device to said standard Internet Relay Chat
10 server.

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2. The method of providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 1, wherein:

15 said access includes participation in said channel by said mobile device.

3. The method of providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 1, wherein:
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said mobile device comprises a mobile telephone.

4. The method of providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 3, wherein:
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said mobile telephone is a mobile originated telephone with respect to said accessed channel of said Internet Relay Chat group.

5. The method of providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 1, wherein:

said mobile chat proxy server interprets Internet Relay Chat
5 commands from said mobile device.

6. The method of providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 1, wherein:

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10 said mobile chat proxy server passes communications with said mobile device through an SMPP interface in a direction toward said mobile device.

7. The method of providing access to a channel of an
15 Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 1, wherein:

said mobile chat proxy server passes communications with said mobile device through an Interworking Function (IWF) interface in a direction toward said mobile device.

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8. The method of providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 1, further comprising:

including a short message system controller between said
25 mobile chat proxy server and said mobile device.

9. The method of providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 1, further comprising:

5 including a wireless Internet gateway between said mobile chat proxy server and said mobile device.

10. The method of providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 8, further comprising:

10 including a wireless Internet gateway between said mobile chat proxy server and said short message system controller.

11. The method of providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 1, further comprising:

15 summoning at least one other mobile device to join said Internet Relay Chat group.

12. The method of providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 1, further comprising:

ghosting said channel of said Internet Relay Chat group.

13. A method of handling chat group commands between a mobile device and a chat group server, said method comprising:

examining non-standard chat group commands transmitted by a mobile device; and

5 forwarding standard chat group commands based on said non-standard chat group commands to said chat group server.

14. The method of handling chat group commands between a mobile device and a chat group server according to claim 13, wherein:
said chat group server is an IRC server.

15. The method of handling chat group commands between a mobile device and a chat group server according to claim 14, wherein:
said standard chat commands are standard IRC commands.

16. The method of handling chat group commands between a mobile device and a chat group server according to claim 14, wherein:
said non-standard chat commands are non-standard IRC commands.

17. The method of handling chat group commands between a mobile device and a chat group server according to claim 13, further comprising:

intercepting said chat group commands from said mobile device before reception by said chat group server.

18. The method of handling chat group commands between a mobile device and a chat group server according to claim 13, further comprising:

5 validating a user of said mobile device before forwarding said chat commands to said chat group server.

19. The method of handling chat group commands between a mobile device and a chat group server according to claim 18, wherein: said chat commands are IRC commands.

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20. Apparatus for providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device, comprising:

15 a mobile chat proxy server in a communication path between a standard Internet Relay Chat server and a wireless gateway server supporting said mobile device;

wherein said mobile chat proxy server forwards chat commands from said mobile device to said standard Internet Relay Chat server.

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21 The apparatus for providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 20, wherein:

said access includes participation in said channel by said mobile device.

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22. The apparatus for providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 20, wherein:

said mobile device comprises a mobile telephone.

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23. The apparatus for providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 22, wherein:

5 said mobile telephone is a mobile originated telephone with respect to said accessed channel of said Internet Relay Chat group.

24. The apparatus for providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 20, wherein:

10 said mobile chat proxy server interprets Internet Relay Chat commands from said mobile device.

25. The apparatus for providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 20, wherein:

15 said mobile chat proxy server passes communications with said mobile device through an SMPP interface in a direction toward said mobile device.

20 26. The apparatus for providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 20, wherein:

25 said mobile chat proxy server passes communications with said mobile device through an Interworking Function (IWF) interface in a direction toward said mobile device.

27. The apparatus for providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 20, further comprising:

5 a short message system controller between said mobile chat proxy server and said mobile device.

28. The apparatus for providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 20, further comprising:

10 a wireless Internet gateway between said mobile chat proxy server and said mobile device.

29. The apparatus for providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 27, further comprising:

15 a wireless Internet gateway between said mobile chat proxy server and said short message system controller.

30. The apparatus for providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 20, further comprising:

means for summoning at least one other mobile device to join said Internet Relay Chat group.

31. The apparatus for providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device according to claim 20, further comprising:

means for ghosting said channel of said Internet Relay Chat group.

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32. Apparatus for handling chat group commands between a mobile device and a chat group server, comprising:

means for examining non-standard chat group commands transmitted by a mobile device; and

5 means for forwarding standard chat group commands based on said non-standard chat group commands to said chat group server.

33. The apparatus for handling chat group commands between a mobile device and a chat group server according to claim 32, wherein said chat group server comprises:

an IRC server.

34. The apparatus for handling chat group commands between a mobile device and a chat group server according to claim 33, wherein:

said standard chat commands are standard IRC commands.

35. The apparatus for handling chat group commands between a mobile device and a chat group server according to claim 33, wherein:

said non-standard chat commands are non-standard IRC commands.

36. The apparatus for handling chat group commands between a mobile device and a chat group server according to claim 32, further comprising:

means for intercepting said chat group commands from said mobile device before reception by said chat group server.

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said chat commands are IRC commands.

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An IRC software module in the mobile user handset allows mobile users to participate in chat sessions. After validating the mobile user, the mobile chat proxy server will forward all IRC traffic from the mobile user to the conventional IRC server, after examination of all IRC commands for the

5 mobile specific implementation.